Literacy centre for Punjabi language

350. SHRI DHARAMPAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no academy in Delhi for Punjabi language;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would consider the formation of literacy centre for Punjabi language on the lines of Urdu language; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that there is Punjabi Academy established in Delhi for promotion of Punjabi language, Art and Culture. It was set up in 1981.

(b) Doesn't arise.

(c) and (d) Punjabi Academy is already running 15 regular Punjabi teaching centres in different areas of Delhi.

Setting up of institutes of higher learning

351. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up institutes of higher learning to meet the shortage of professionals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (b) During the Eleventh Plan, Government has decided to set up following institutes of higher learning:

— 8 new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). A decision, in principle, has been taken to locate out of the 8 new IITs, one each in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh.

— three new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) of which one has already started functioning at Mohali and two more would come up soon in Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram. This is over and above the 02 IISERs at Pune and Kolkata which started in the Tenth Plan.

— 20 new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) are proposed to be set up.

— 7 new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country, one of these IIMs has already been established in Shillong. Location of the remaining IIMs is yet to be decided in consultation with Planning Commission.

— 2 new Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs) at Bhopal, (Madhya Pradesh) and Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh).

— 10 new National Institutes of Technology (NITs).

— 16 new Central and Engineering colleges are proposed in Central Universities. In addition 11 Medical and Engineering colleges are being proposed in the new Central Universities, 05 Medical and Engineering Colleges are also proposed in 14 World Class Central Universities.

(c) Does not arise;

Commercialization of education

352. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is encouraging commercialization of education which is against the interest of common man; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The present National Policy on Education is against commercialization of education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India have also cautioned against commercialization of education, even though reasonable surplus for institutional development are permissible.

Assistance for Rural Public Schools

353. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal of Andhra Pradesh Government requesting the Union Government to provide Rs. 700 crores towards its share of 25 per cent of non-recurring cost to set up Rural Public Schools in each of 290 assembly constituencies of the State;

(b) the complete details of the proposal;

(c) the reasons for delay in sanctioning it; and

(d) by when it is likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The proposal of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh relates to establishment of 300 residential, co-educational English medium schools having classes 6 to 12 through Public-Private Partnership with at least one school in each of the Assembly Constituencies in the State. As per the proposal, land for establishing the schools is to provided by the State Government free of cost, whereas the capital cost is to be met by the private provider and the recurring cost is to be shared between the State Government and the private provider. There is no scheme in this Ministry at present under which this proposal for assistance towards part of non-recurring cost of the school building can be met by the Central Government.

Setting up of IIT and IISER in Kerala

354. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for setting up an IIT and an IISER in Kerala;